

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01113 271758Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09  
OES-06 H-01 L-03 /042 W  
-----280011Z 015410 /22

R 271645Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 607

INFO AMEMBASSY BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY CURACAO

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1113

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, ECIN, XL, TD

SUBJECT: NUMUCAR MEETING IN SAN JOSE

REF: SAN JOSE 1352

1. EMBASSY OFFICER DISCUSSED NAMUCAR MEETING IN SAN  
JOSE WITH FRANCIS MUNGROO, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE  
SEAMEN AND WATERFRONT WORKERS TRADE UNION AND ALTERNATE  
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DIRECTOR OF NAMUCAR FOR T&T, WHO WILL ACCOMPANY MINISTER  
OF WORKS, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION HECTOR  
MCCLEAN TO SAN JOSE. ACCORDING TO MUNGROO, THE MEETING  
WAS CALLED AT THE INITIATIVE OF JAMAICA, SPECIFICALLY TO  
DISCUSS NAMUCAR FINANCES. HE SAID THAT JAMAICA HAD  
PROPOSED THAT NAMUCAR SHOULD NOT NOW REQUIRE PRESENT  
MEMBERS TO BUY UP THE NUMBER OF SHARES THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY

AGREED TO. JAMAICA HAD PROPOSED INSTEAD THAT BECAUSE NAMUCAR HAD BEEN SECESSFUL IN EXPANDING ITS MEMBERSHIP, IT SHOULD DERIVE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR FINANCING ITS OPERATIONS FROM NEW MEMBER STATES. JAMAICA ALSO URGED THAT WHEN PURCHASING VESSELS, NAMUCAR SHOULD MAKE A LOW DOWN-PAYMENT AND PAY OFF THE REMAINDER OVER A LONGER (7-10 YEAR) PERIOD TO EASE THE PRESENT NEED FOR CASH. MUNGROO SAID THAT THE GOTT WOULD PROBABLY SUPPORT JAMAICA'S POSITION.

2. ANOTHER ISSUE WHICH MUNGROO SAID WOULD COME BEFORE THE MEETING WAS A PROPOSAL THAT NAMUCAR EXTEND SERVICE TO INCLUDE U.S. GULF-COAST PORTS. HE SAID THAT THE GOTT WOULD, AT MOST, AGREE TO SUCH AN EXTENSION ON A TEMPORARY BASIS, SINCE SUCH A SERVICE COULD COMPETE WITH THE NEW SHIPPING COMPANY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (SCOTT), A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE GOTT AND U.S. SEATRAN. ALTHOUGH SCOTT WAS CREATED INITIALLY TO CARRY CRUDE AND REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TO AND FROM THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED TRINTOC REFINERY IN TRINIDAD, MUNGROO SAID, SCOTT SHIPS MIGHT ALSO TRANSPORT SOME NON-OIL BULK CARGO TO U.S. PORTS IN THE FUTURE AND A NAMUCAR SERVICE TO THESE PORTS COULD BE DIRECTLY COMPETITIVE. (COMMENT: THIS IS A PRESENT SPECULATIVE AS SCOTT HAS NOT YET BEGUN SERVICE EVEN FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS; GOTT PROBABLY WANTS TO KEEP ITS OPTIONS OPEN).

3. A THIRD MATTER TO BE TAKEN UP A SAN JOSE WAS A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HARD EVALUATION OF NAMUCAR'S EQUIPMENT. MUNGROO SAID THAT NAMUCAR PRESENTLY OWNS ONE VESSEL OUTRIGHT AND IS LEASING THREE OTHERS. THE SHIPS WERE TRANSPORTING ONLY 0.7 PERCENT OF THE FREIGHT SHIPPED IN THE CARIBBEAN, HOWEVER, WHILE THE TARGET FIGURE WAS 20 PERCENT. ACCORDING TO MUNGROO, THE GOTT WAS FIRMLY AGAINST EXPANDING THE CORPORATION'S SHIPPING CAPACITY UNTIL IT FULLY UTILIZED WHAT IT HAD.

4. MUNGROO HAS ATTENDED MOST PREVIOUS NAMUCAR CONFERENCES AND IS WELL INFORMED ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S AFFAIRS AND GOTT POLICIES. MINISTER MCCLEAN, WHO WILL BE HEADING THE DELEGATION TO SAN JOSE, HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH NAMUCAR ACTIVITIES. POLLARD MOORE, THE DIRECTOR OF NAMUCAR FOR TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WILL NOT ATTEND THIS MEETING, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE HE IS ONE OF SEVERAL SUBJECTS OF AN INVESTIGATION OF CORRUPTION AND MALADMINISTRATION OF THE PORT.  
RICH

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** EWWT, ECIN, XL, TD, NAMUCAR  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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